

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 05056 281334Z

ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 PM-05
SS-15 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /065 W
-----008400 281339Z /41

O R 281156Z MAY 78 ZFF-5
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8895
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USINT HAVANA

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 5056

E.O. 11652: XGDSZE
TAGS: XA, CU, UR, MPOL
SUBJECT: SOVIET AND CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 134913

1. FOLLOWING BRIEF REPLIES KEYED TO QUESTIONS REFTEL.
2. (A) THE GOVERNMENT OF IVORY COAST (GOIC) BELIEVES SOVIETS AND CUBANS ARE NOT, REPEAT, NOT INTERESTED IN FINDING PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN DISPUTES, IN ASSISTING AFRICAN EFFORTS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, OR EVEN IN THEMSELVES EXPLOITING AFRICA' RESOURCES. PRESIDENT FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY VIEWS SOVIET AND CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA AS DESIGNED TO UNDERMINE AFRICAN STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT AND THEREBY DEPRIVE THE WEST OF NEEDED AFRICAN RAW MATERIALS.
- (B) GOIC BELIEVES SOVIET AND CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA CREATES OR REINFORCES DISUNITY AMONG AFRICAN STATES AND DISTRACTS THEM FROM URGENT SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS.
- (C) PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY BELIEVES MOST EFFECTIVE WAY FOR AFRICAN STATES TO RESIST SOVIET AND CUBAN ENCROACHMENTS IS BY A COMBINATION OF ACCELERATED SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DEFENSE COOPERATION AND PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO KEY AFRICAN ISSUES SUCH AS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 05056 281334Z

THOSE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. ALL OF THESE EFFORTS REQUIRE STRONG WESTERN, NOTABLY U.S. SUPPORT. TO COUNTER SPECIFIC COMMUNIST INITIATIVES, HOUPHOUET BELIEVES THE WEST IN GENERAL AND THE U.S. IN PARTICULAR MUST BE PREPARED TO TAKE STRONG MEASURES, AS FRANCE AND BELGIUM HAVE TAKEN IN THE LAST SHABA AFFAIR. HIS PRINCIPAL CONCERN ABOUT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IS THAT AMERICAN REACTION TO THE VIETNAM EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN SO TRAUMATIC THAT THE U.S. WILL FOR

SOME TIME TO COME BE UNWILLING TO TAKE THE STEPS NECESSARY TO
COUNTERBALANCE COMMUNIST POWER IN AFRICA.

(D) THE IVORIANS CERTAINLY BELIEVE THAT THE SOVIET-CUBAN ROLE IN
AFRICA IS DIVISIVE. BECAUSE IT IS DIVISIVE, THE GOIC CONSIDERS
IT IMPORTANT FOR LIKE-MINDED AFRICAN STATES WHO CONSIDER THE
SOVIET-CUBAN ROLE TO BE DANGEROUS TO WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER TO
COUNTER IT WITH WESTERN HELP.
STEARNS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ABIDJA05056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DOWNGRADE PER 78 ABIDJAN 8310 DTD 9/7/78
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780225-0203
Format: TEL
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780510/aaaaaief.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 27234693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 134913
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2507765
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET AND CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA
TAGS: MPOL, XA, CU, UR, IV
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/27234693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014